



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES
DIVISION OF EPIDEMIOLOGY, ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH
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JAMES E. MCGREEVEY
Governor

CLIFTON R. LACY, M.D.
Commissioner

Dear Colleague:

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services is pleased to announce the launch of the 2003-2004 influenza immunization campaign. This comprehensive vaccination campaign is an effort to raise awareness of influenza and to protect more of New Jersey's people through influenza immunization.

The campaign is striving to promote 3 primary messages:

1. Getting a flu vaccine is important for people of all ages
2. Getting a flu vaccine not only protects yourself, but also your loved ones
3. October and November are the best times to get immunized, but getting the vaccine up through March can also offer protection

As part of this campaign, educational materials are available through the NJDHSS Communicable Disease Service. We encourage you to make these materials available to your patients, clients, parents, friends, family members, and others who have questions about the flu and current vaccination recommendations. To order quantities of these materials, please call the NJDHSS Communicable Disease Service at 609-588-7500. Materials are also available at www.nj.gov/flu to print on your home or office printer.

We hope that you will take the time to stress the importance of influenza immunization with your daily contacts and join us in our efforts to reduce the impact that the flu has on New Jersey residents. Please let us know if we can provide additional assistance.

Sincerely,

Eddy Bresnitz, M.D., M.S.
State Epidemiologist/Senior Assistant Commissioner
Epidemiology, Environmental, and Occupational Health
NJ Department of Health and Senior Services